

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claims 1 to 13. (cancelled)

14. (amended) A method for prognoses of the risk of rejection of a transplanted organ, reconstructed organ, limb, extremity or body part, wherein the method comprises the step of measuring the level of soluble CD44.

15. (cancelled)

16. (amended) A method according to claims 14 [[or 15]], wherein the level of soluble CD44 is measured prior to transplantation or reconstruction of the organ, limb, extremity or body part.

17. (amended) A method according to any one of claims 14 [[-16]], wherein the level of soluble CD44 is measured *ex vivo* in a biological sample.

18. (amended) A method according to any one of claims 14 [[-17]], wherein the biological sample is a blood, a blood fraction, serum, urine or a urine fraction.

19. (amended) A method according to any one of claims 14 [[-18]], wherein the organ is selected from the group consisting of kidney, liver, lungs, heart, small intestine and pancreas.

20. (amended) A method according to any one of claims 14[[-18]], wherein a serum CD 44 level in excess of 600 ng soluble CD44 per ml serum is indicative for a high risk of rejection of the organ, limb, extremity or body part.

21. (new) A method for prevention or reduction of ischemia-reperfusion injury in a mammal comprising administration of a CD44 blocking molecule.

22. (new) The method of claim 21, wherein the CD44 blocking molecule is administered to a subject undergoing solid organ transplantation.

23. (new) The method of claim 22, wherein the solid organ is selected from the group consisting of kidney, liver, lungs, heart, small intestine and pancreas.

24. (new) The method of claim 22, wherein the CD44 blocking molecule is administered prior to transplantation.
25. (new) The method of claim 24, wherein the CD44 blocking molecule is administered in one or more intravenous injections.
26. (new) The method of claim 24, wherein the CD44 blocking molecule is administered by perfusion of the solid organ with a solution comprising the CD44 blocking molecule.
27. (new) The method of claim 21, wherein the ischemia-reperfusion injury is prevented or reduced in one or more solid organs.
28. (new) The method of claim 21, wherein the mammal is in shock.
29. (new) The method of claim 27, wherein the solid organ is the kidney.
30. (new) The method of claim 29, wherein the CD44 blocking molecule prevents or reduces tubulus necrose.
31. (new) The method of claim 24, wherein the ischemia-reperfusion injury is prevented or reduced in one or more one or more organs, limbs, extremities or body parts that have been severed from the body and that are being re-attached to the body by reconstructive microsurgery.
32. (new) The method of claim 21 wherein the CD44 blocking molecule is an anti-CD44 antibody or low-molecular weight hyaluronate.
33. (new) The method of claim 31, wherein the anti-CD44 antibody is an antibody capable of cross-blocking the IM7 antibody by at least 10%.
34. (new) The method of claims 31, wherein the antibody is a chimeric, deimmunised, humanized, or human antibody.